

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for generating an enhanced data, comprising:

an input interface receiving a modem-based data session established via at least one circuit-switched network communicating with at least one asymmetrically routed data network;

at least one tunnel, communicating with the input interface and receiving the data session;

and

at least one enhancement cluster, communicating with the at least one tunnel and a destination network for the data session, the enhancement cluster processing the data session to enhance a connection to the destination network.
2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the input interface comprises a set of remote access servers.
3. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one tunnel comprises a Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol tunnel.
4. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one tunnel comprises a plurality of tunnels.
5. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of load balancers.
6. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of compression servers.
7. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of tunnel servers.

8. A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of distributed enhancement platforms.
9. A system according to claim 8, wherein at least two of the set of distributed enhancement platforms are operated by separate access providers.
10. A system according to claim 9, wherein the at least two of the set of distributed enhancement platforms are hosted at separate locations.
11. A system according to claim 1, wherein the enhancement of the data session comprises at least one of applying compression, applying decompression, performing caching, applying optimization, and applying security to the data session.
12. A system according to claim 1, wherein the destination network comprises the Internet.
13. A system according to claim 1, wherein the data session originates as a point-to-point session.
14. A system according to claim 1, wherein the connection to the destination network comprises a non-point-to-point session.
15. A system according to claim 1, wherein access to the enhancement cluster is discriminated by at least a domain name.
16. A system according to claim 1, further comprising an interface to an authentication platform, the authentication platform authenticating the data session for access to the enhancement cluster.
17. A method for generating an enhanced data connection, comprising:

receiving a modem-based data session established via at least one circuit-switched network communicating with at least one asymmetrically routed data network;

receiving the data session via at least one tunnel; and

processing the data session in at least one enhancement cluster to enhance a connection to a destination network.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the step of receiving comprises receiving the modem-based data session in a set of remote access servers.

19. A method according to claim 17, wherein the at least one tunnel comprises a Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol tunnel.

20. A method according to claim 17, wherein the at least one tunnel comprises a plurality of tunnels.

21. A method according to claim 17, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of load balancers.

22. A method according to claim 17, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of compression servers.

23. A method according to claim 17, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of tunnel network servers.

24. A method according to claim 17, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of distributed enhancement platforms.

25. A method according to claim 24, wherein at least two of the set of distributed enhancement platforms are operated by separate access providers.
26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the at least two of the set of distributed enhancement platforms are hosted at separate locations.
27. A method according to claim 17, wherein the processing comprises at least one of applying compression, applying decompression, performing caching, applying optimization, and applying security to the data session.
28. A method according to claim 17, wherein the destination network comprises the Internet.
29. A method according to claim 17, wherein the data session originates as a point-to-point session.
30. A method according to claim 17, wherein the connection to the destination network comprises a non-point-to-point session.
31. A method according to claim 17, further comprising discriminating the access to the enhancement cluster by at least a domain name.
32. A method according to claim 17, further comprising authenticating the data session for access to the enhancement cluster.
33. A system for generating an enhanced data connection, comprising:

input interface means for receiving a modem-based data session established via at least one circuit-switched network communicating with at least one asymmetrically routed data network;

at least one tunnel means, communicating with the input interface and receiving the data session; and

at least one enhancement cluster means, communicating with the at least one tunnel means and a destination network for the data session, the enhancement cluster means processing the data session to enhance a connection to the destination network.

34. A system according to claim 33, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster means comprises a set of compression server means.

35. A system according to claim 33, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster means comprises a set of distributed enhancement platform means.

36. A system according to claim 35, wherein at least two of the set of distributed enhancement platform means are operated by separate access providers.

37. A system according to claim 33, wherein the enhancement of the data session comprises at least one of applying compression, applying decompression, performing caching, applying optimization, and applying security to the data session.

38. A system according to claim 33, wherein the destination network comprises the Internet.

39. A system according to claim 33, wherein the data session originates as a point-to-point session.

40. A system according to claim 33, wherein the connection to the destination network comprises a non-point-to-point session.

41. An enhanced data session, the enhanced data session being generated by a method comprising:

receiving a modem-based data session established via at least a circuit-switched network communicating with at least one asymmetrically routed data network;

communicating the data session to at least one tunnel;

transmitting the data session to at least one enhancement cluster via the at least one tunnel; and

processing the data session to generate an enhanced session in the at least one enhancement cluster, the enhanced session connecting to a destination network.

42. An enhanced data session according to claim 41, wherein the at least one enhancement cluster comprises a set of compression servers.

43. An enhanced data session according to claim 41, wherein the at least one enhancement clusters comprises a set of distributed enhancement platforms.

44. An enhanced data session according to claim 43, wherein at least two of the set of distributed enhancement platforms are operated by separate access providers.

45. An enhanced data session according to claim 41, wherein the processing comprises at least one of applying compression, applying decompression, performing caching, applying optimization, and applying security to the data session.

46. An enhanced data session according to claim 41, wherein the destination network comprises the Internet.

47. An enhanced data session according to claim 41, wherein the data session originates as a point-to-point session.
48. An enhanced data session according to claim 41, wherein the connection to the destination network comprises a non-point-to-point session.
49. A method for generating an enhanced data connection, comprising:
 - receiving a modem-based data session;
 - communicating the data session via at least one communications path traversing an asymmetric data network to at least one enhancement platform; and
 - processing the data session in the at least one enhancement cluster to enhance a connection to a destination network.
50. A method according to claim 49, wherein the processing comprises at least one of applying compression, applying decompression, performing caching, applying optimization, and applying security to the data session.
51. A method according to claim 49, wherein the destination network comprises the Internet.
52. A method according to claim 49, wherein the data session originates as a point-to-point session.
53. A method according to claim 49, wherein the connection to the destination network comprises a non-point-to-point session.
54. A method according to claim 49, wherein the at least one communications path comprises at least one tunnel.
55. A method according to claim 49, wherein the at least one communications path encapsulates the data session in a virtual symmetric connection.